

Assembly Bill No. 639

Passed the Assembly September 11, 2007

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Passed the Senate September 10, 2007

Secretary of the Senate

This bill was received by the Governor this _____ day
of _____, 2007, at _____ o'clock ____M.

Private Secretary of the Governor

CHAPTER _____

An act to add and repeal Section 3001.5 of the Penal Code, relating to parole.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 639, Hancock. Parole: identification cards.

Existing law provides that after inmates are released from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, they are placed on parole, as specified.

On and after January 1, 2009, and until January 1, 2014, this bill would require that prior to certain inmates being released on parole from the state prison at San Quentin, the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation take reasonable steps to ensure that each parolee successfully obtains a valid California identification card, as defined, issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

This bill would require the department, in collaboration with the Department of Motor Vehicles, to allow the Department of Motor Vehicles to make semiannual visits to the state prison at San Quentin to provide identification cards to eligible inmates upon their release and to inmates who are eligible to be released or released on parole within 6 months.

This bill would specify the department's duties in providing and obtaining the information necessary for eligible inmates to obtain identification cards.

The bill would declare the intent of the Legislature and state findings and declarations of the Legislature in connection with these provisions.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that reduces recidivism rates for California's parolees. Furthermore, it is the intent of the Legislature to establish an interagency program between the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and the Department of Motor Vehicles that provides inmates with identification cards upon their release from prison,

providing them with an important tool for their reintegration into society.

SEC. 2. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) The lack of proper identification for individuals recently released from prison is a major barrier to successful community reintegration.

(b) Inmates who have served long sentences may have outdated identification or lost it during their travel through the criminal justice system.

(c) The lack of an ID card leaves parolees unable to complete employment forms, apply for housing, open a bank account, cash or deposit a check, receive necessary medication, register for school, or enter a federal building.

(d) In the State of California only 21 percent of parolees successfully complete parole and California has one of the nation's highest recidivism rates.

(e) According to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation it costs thirty-five thousand five hundred eighty-seven dollars (\$35,587) to incarcerate an inmate for a year.

SEC. 3. Section 3001.5 is added to the Penal Code, to read:

3001.5. (a) Prior to each inmate being released on parole from the state prison at San Quentin, the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation shall take reasonable steps to ensure that each parolee successfully obtains a valid California identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

(b) The department, in collaboration with the Department of Motor Vehicles, shall allow the Department of Motor Vehicles to make semiannual visits to San Quentin prison for the purpose of providing state-issued identification cards to inmates upon their release and to inmates who are eligible to be released or released on parole within six months. Only inmates released from the general population or on the main line shall be eligible for receipt of an identification card. Inmates held within the reception center are not eligible for an identification card pursuant to this section.

(c) (1) The department shall verify eligibility for the identification card by obtaining the inmate's birth date and legal presence information through the inmate's file.

(2) An inmate is not eligible to receive an identification card pursuant to this section if the inmate already has possession of a validly issued California identification card or driver's license.

(d) Identification cards shall be issued pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 13005 of the Vehicle Code.

(e) All identification cards shall be subject to Section 13004 of the Vehicle Code.

(f) An inmate shall pay all fees charged by the Department of Motor Vehicles related to the issuance of an identification card. However, the Department of Motor Vehicles shall waive any or all of the fee upon a finding of an inability to pay.

(g) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2009.

(h) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2014, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2014, deletes or extends that date.

Approved _____, 2007

Governor